

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

A complete listing of the pending claims, indicating the status of each claim, follows.

1. (Currently amended) A solution for the calibration of an oxygen sensor, the solution comprising:

a selected concentration of choline;

HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>; and

a known oxygen content,

wherein said selected concentration of choline is sufficient to reduce a rate of loss of oxygen content in said solution, and said known oxygen content in said solution is sufficient for calibration of the oxygen sensor.

2. (Original) The solution of claim 1 wherein said rate of loss of oxygen content in said solution is in the range of about 0.05 mmHg/month to about 5.0 mmHg/month.

3. (Original) The solution of claim 1, wherein choline comprises choline chloride.

4. (Original) The solution of claim 1, wherein choline comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of choline hydrogen citrate, choline bitartrate, choline bicarbonate, tricholine citrate, choline ascorbate, choline borate, choline gluconate, choline phosphate, choline di(choline)sulphate and dicholine mucate.

5. (Original) The solution of claim 1, wherein the concentration of said choline is in a range of about 5 mmol/L to about 100 mmol/L.

6. (Original) The solution of claim 1, wherein the concentration of said choline comprises about 20 mmol/L.

7. (Original) The solution of claim 1, wherein said oxygen content is selected from a range of about 10 mmHg to 300 mmHg.

8. (Original) The solution of claim 7, wherein said oxygen content comprises about 100 mmHg.
9. (Original) The solution of claim 7, wherein said oxygen content comprises about 180 mmHg.
10. (Original) The solution of claim 1, further comprising CO<sub>2</sub>.
11. (Original) The solution of claim 1, further comprising helium gas.
12. (Original) The solution of claim 1, further comprising Na<sup>+</sup>.
13. (Original) The solution of claim 1, further comprising K<sup>+</sup>.
14. (Original) The solution of claim 1, further comprising Ca<sup>++</sup>.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Original) The solution of claim 1, further comprising a surfactant.
17. (Original) The solution of claim 1, further comprising an inert preservative.
18. (Original) The solution of claim 1, further comprising a biological buffer.
19. (Currently amended) A container of calibration solution for calibrating an electrochemical sensor, the container of calibration solution comprising:

the calibration solution, comprising:

a selected concentration of choline;

HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>; and,

a known oxygen content, wherein said selected concentration of choline is sufficient to reduce a rate of loss of oxygen content in said solution, and said known oxygen content in the solution is sufficient for calibration of an oxygen sensor; and

a substantially gas-impermeable wall for holding the calibration solution.

20. (Original) The container of calibration solution of claim 19, wherein said container comprises at least one flexible wall.
21. (Original) The container of calibration solution according to claim 19, wherein said container is sealed to prevent a headspace comprising a gas.
22. (Original) The container of calibration solution according to claim 19, wherein said choline comprises choline chloride.
23. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said choline comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of choline hydrogen citrate, choline bitartrate, choline bicarbonate, tricholine citrate, choline ascorbate, choline borate, choline gluconate, choline phosphate, choline di(choline)sulphate, and dicholine mucate.
24. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said known concentration of choline is selected from the range of about 5 mmol/L to about 100 mmol/L.
25. (Original) The container according to claim 24, wherein said known concentration of choline comprises about 20 mmol/L.
26. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said known oxygen content is selected from the range of about 10 mmHg to 300 mmHg.
27. (Original) The container according to claim 26, wherein said oxygen content comprises about 100 mmHg.
28. (Original) The container according to claim 27, wherein said oxygen content comprises about 180 mmHg.
29. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said solution comprises CO<sub>2</sub>.
30. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said solution comprises helium gas.
31. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said solution comprises Na<sup>+</sup>.

32. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said solution comprises  $K^+$ .
33. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said solution comprises  $Ca^{++}$ .
34. (Canceled)
35. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said solution comprises a surfactant.
36. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said solution comprises an inert preservative.
37. (Original) The container according to claim 19, wherein said solution comprises a biological buffer.
38. (Currently amended) A method of reducing a rate of loss of oxygen content in a solution, comprising:
  - providing the solution having a known oxygen content and comprising  $HCO_3^-$ ; and
  - adding an amount of choline to the solution,
  - wherein said choline amount is sufficient to reduce said rate of loss of oxygen content in the solution.
39. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the amount of choline added to said solution is selected from a range of about 5 mmol/L to 100 mmol/L.
40. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the amount of choline added to the solution comprises about 20 mmol/L.
41. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein choline comprises choline chloride.
42. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said oxygen content is in a range of about 10 mmHg to about 300 mmHg.
43. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said oxygen content comprises about 100 mmHg.

44. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said oxygen content comprises about 180 mmHg.
45. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises a calibration solution.
46. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein choline comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of choline hydrogen citrate, choline bitartrate, choline bicarbonate, tricholine citrate, choline ascorbate, choline borate, choline gluconate, choline phosphate, choline di(choline)sulphate and dicholine mucate.
47. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises CO<sub>2</sub>.
48. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises helium gas.
49. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises Na<sup>+</sup>.
50. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises K<sup>+</sup>.
51. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises Ca<sup>++</sup>.
52. (Canceled)
53. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises a surfactant.
54. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises an inert preservative.
55. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said solution comprises a biological buffer.